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Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Request Application Number 10/642,594 For Filing Date August 19, 2003 Continued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor Nobuyasu KANEKAWA Transmittal Address to: 2826 Art Unit Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents **Examiner Name** Thomas Dickey P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 056207.50307C1 Attorney Docket Number This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s). Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on Enclosed X Amendment/Reply Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Other Form PTO-1449 Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 05-1323. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

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Signature

Signature

Date

March 17, 2005

Name (Print/Type)

Vincent J. Sunderdick

Registration No. 29,004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer. U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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b. c. Other _

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RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/642,594

Confirmation No.: 2784

First Named Inventor : Nobuyasu KANEKAWA

Filed

August 19, 2003

TC/A.U.

: 2826

Examiner

T. Dickey

Docket No.

: 056207.50307C1

Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: Semiconductor Device

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with a filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.